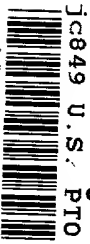


12-26-00

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12/21/00



EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE

Date 12/21/00 Label No. 8262822519005

I hereby certify that, on the date indicated above, this paper or fee was deposited with the U.S. Postal Service and that it was addressed for delivery to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 by "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee Separately."

Name (Print) D. Beck

Signature [Signature]

PLEASE CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY UP TO \$300.00 OR CREDIT ANY EXCESS IN FUTURE FEES DUE WITH RESPECT TO THIS APPLICATION TO OUR DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 04-0100

jc945 U.S. PTO

09/746033



12/21/00

DARBY & DARBY P.C.

805 Third Avenue
New York, New York 10022
212-527-7700

Docket No: 2309/01095

Box PATENT APPLICATION
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Enclosed please find an application for United States patent as identified below:

Inventor/s (name ALL inventors): Nobuhiro KURATA, Mitsuhiro WADA
and Sachiyo SUZUKI

Title: WATER-DECOMPOSABLE ABSORBENT ARTICLE

including the items indicated:

1. Specification and 9 claims: 2 indep.; 7 dep.; _ multiple dep.
2. ☒ Executed declaration and power of attorney
☐ Unexecuted declaration and power of attorney
3. ☒ Formal drawings, 2 sheets (Figs. 1-5)
☐ Informal drawings, _ sheets (Figs.)
4. ☒ Assignment for recording to: UNI-CHARM CORPORATION
5. ☐ Verified Statement Claiming Small Entity Status
6. ☒ Check in amount of \$750.00, (\$710.00 filing; \$40.00 recording)
(See attached **Fee Computation Sheet**)
7. ☐ Preliminary Amendment

09/746033

8. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement
9. ☐ Please amend the description by inserting the following paragraph after the line containing the title on page 1:
"This patent application claims the priority of U.S. provisional patent application No. 60/, filed on , which is incorporated herein by reference."

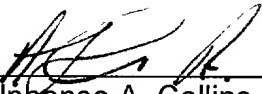
Priority is claimed for this application, corresponding application/s having been filed as follows:

Country:	JAPAN
Number:	2000-000577
Date:	January 6, 2000

The priority document ☒ is enclosed
☐ will follow.

Date: December 21, 2000

Respectfully submitted,



Alphonso A. Collins
Reg. No. 43,559
Attorney for Applicant(s)

PATENT FEE COMPUTATION SHEET

	No. of Claims Presented	Extra Claims Previously Paid For	Number of Extra Claims	Rate
Basic Fee				\$710.00
Design Application				\$
Plant Application				\$
Total Claims	9- 20	= 0	x \$18.00	\$
Independent Claims	2 - 3	= 0	x \$80.00	\$.00
Multiple Dependent Claims		- if so, add	\$270.00	\$.00
Surcharge for late submission of filing fee and/or declaration (\$130.00)				\$0
SUBTOTAL				\$00
<input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity REDUCTION (Half of Subtotal)				\$
Fee for recordation of assignment (\$40.00)				\$ 40
Charge for filing non-English language application (\$130.00)				\$
TOTAL				<u>\$750.00</u>